

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
FOURTH SERIES

VOL. X, No. 4, pp. 33-34

AUGUST 6, 1920

IV

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW LIZARD (*DIPSOSAURUS
DORSALIS LUCASENSIS*) FROM LOWER
CALIFORNIA

BY

JOHN VAN DENBURGH

Curator, Department of Herpetology

The Crested Lizard, *Dipsosaurus dorsalis*, occurs in the desert regions of California, southern Nevada, and western Arizona, and ranges thence south to the end of the peninsula of Lower California. It is one of the few reptiles found both in the Cape Region and farther north in which specific or subspecific differentiation has not been recognized by name. Geographic variation, however, does occur, as will be shown below. Since the species was originally described from a specimen from the Colorado Desert, California, that form may be known as *Dipsosaurus dorsalis dorsalis*, and the southern subspecies may be described as

Dipsosaurus dorsalis lucasensis, new subspecies

Diagnosis.—Similar to *D. dorsalis dorsalis* but with rostral usually separated from nasal by but one granular scale.

Type.—Cal. Acad. Sci. No. 46090, collected at San Jose del Cabo, Lower California, Mexico, by J. R. Slevin, July 31, 1919.

Distribution.—The Cape Region of Lower California.

Remarks.—These two subspecies seem to be alike in all important characters, except the one mentioned. This difference is not a constant one, but exists in so large a proportion of the specimens that it seems best to recognize it by name. The following table shows the number of specimens which have each number of granules at the point where there are fewest on each side of the head:

Granules between rostral and nasal...	1-1	1-2	2-2	2-0
<i>Dipsosaurus dorsalis lucasensis</i>	273	25	53	...
<i>Dipsosaurus dorsalis dorsalis</i>	22	12	171	1

It will be seen that these granules are 1-1 in 78% of the 351 specimens of *D. dorsalis lucasensis* as against 10% of 206 specimens of *D. dorsalis dorsalis*, and are 2-2 in 15% of the specimens of *D. dorsalis lucasensis* as against 83% of those of *D. dorsalis dorsalis*.